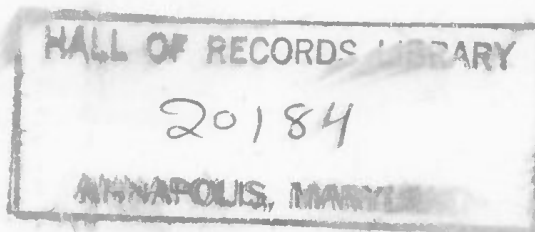


MSA SC 5891-1-331

Maryland Historical Magazine

Maryland Historical Magazine

Vol. 85, No. 2



Published Quarterly by the Museum and Library of Maryland History
The Maryland Historical Society
Summer 1990

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ISSN-0025-4258

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Editor's Corner: For the first time in many years our lead piece is not an article but a primary source. This particular document has an interesting (and one must admit problematical) provenance. How many such Civil War memoirs lie in family trunks waiting to be rediscovered anyone might guess. We wish to thank Nancy D. West for her work in copyediting the Stone "diary"—a formidable job.

Cover design: Col. Bradley Johnson rallies the 1st Maryland (C.S.A.) at an engagement near Boatswain's Creek, Virginia. Wash drawing entitled "Waiting in Line of Battle," by William L. Sheppard, 1867. (Maryland Historical Society. Gift of Mrs. Frederick M. Colston.)

The "Diary" of John H. Stone First Lieutenant, Company B, 2d Maryland Infantry, C.S.A.

Edited by THOMAS G. CLEMENS

The letters presented here were written by John H. Stone to his sister, Sallie, while he was serving in the Confederate army. The letters cover Stone's activities during the thirteen months from June 1862 through July 1863. Although Stone called the letters his "diary," the entries are broken up into letters, each one beginning with "My Dear Sister" and ending with "Your affectionate Bro, John." Since Stone used the term diary, the editor will do the same.

The dedication on the first page is dated 1862, but this is misleading. As stated on the last page of the manuscript, Stone actually rewrote the diary in 1895. In fact, Stone calls the it "a correct transcript of notes taken from my diary, which was captured from me by Lt. Col. Ed B. Sawyer of Vermont, who after a lapse of 32 years has returned the little volume."¹ This diary is not the original, but a later copy of it. There is no way of knowing how much editing Stone did in transcription since we do not know if the original notes or the diary exist. Questions may arise as to how and where Sawyer captured the diary, how he located Stone to return it and why, and why Stone copied it over.

Col. Edward B. Sawyer did command the 1st Vermont Cavalry Regiment, but left no record of how he may have acquired Stone's diary. Stone was never taken prisoner during the war so the diary could not have been taken from him personally. Most likely it happened during the retreat of Lee's army from Gettysburg. The 1st Vermont seized some Confederate baggage wagons of General Ewell's corps, to which Stone's unit was attached, on 6 July 1863.² It was common practice for officers' baggage to be carried in wagons, usually one per regiment. A fellow officer in Stone's regiment wrote that Yankees captured his valise and clothing during this retreat, and perhaps Stone's diary met the same fate.³ Colonel Sawyer was absent from his regiment on 6 July 1863 and did not rejoin it until 10 July, but he could

Professor Clemens, a frequent reviewer in these pages, teaches American history at Hagerstown Junior College.

have received the diary as a trophy from another officer, either then or after the war.

How and why Sawyer returned the diary presents another mystery. Although Sawyer was active in several reunion organizations, Stone did not belong to any. Neither the records of the 1st Vermont Survivors association nor Vermont newspapers mention any ceremony in which Sawyer returned anything to anyone.⁴ Around the turn of the century aged veterans restored many captured flags, North and South, to their original owners. Many wartime mementos were traced to their sources and returned. It may have been this expression of reconciliation that motivated Sawyer to locate Stone and return the diary. Sawyer left no clues about his motives or methods of locating Stone, and Stone never explained how he got it back. I have found no evidence that shows Stone belonged to any veterans' organizations, so it is not likely that Sawyer met him at a reunion. Since Stone's sister was still living in Baltimore, it is possible that Sawyer located Stone through her.

What I have used here is a photocopy of Stone's handwritten transcription. I received this copy by chance, from my brother, David Clemens. In 1976 when he was hired at Huntington Public Library in New York, he found the diary copy in his files, left behind by the previous librarian. I have corresponded with the librarian who left the diary in the files, but he does not remember who donated the copy to the library. I have also placed advertisements in the local newspapers in Huntington in hopes I could locate the original donor, but I have not met with any success. Conceivably, the diary is a fake. Stone, caught up in the nostalgic writings of his peers, may have decided to "invent" this diary using other Maryland Confederate diaries as a basis. Some latter-day enthusiast might have written it from scratch. I sincerely doubt that it would be worth anyone's time to forge this extensive a work, however; it would require too much research and offer very little prospect of profit. In a few places, especially the Gettysburg passages, Stone's wording is similar to other sources' description of events. Whether or not this was a deliberate embellishment of his original notes is impossible to know without seeing the original diary. While I do not think the diary is a forgery, I feel compelled to mention this evidence so that the reader may make his or her own decision.

After I received the copy in 1976, I began doing some preliminary research. I am convinced the diary is authentic. Stone was reasonably accurate and wrote with a degree of first-hand knowledge. I have compared his diary handwriting against a letter in the National Archives which was written by Stone, and obviously the same person wrote both specimens.⁵

In order to ensure the accuracy and authenticity of Stone's diary, I tried to corroborate many of its details with other sources. The Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, private letters, other diaries, and newspapers all confirm many of the events that Stone mentions, although not without

some discrepancies. Most of the dates of events are confirmed by other sources, but occasionally Stone was inaccurate. Some of this error can be attributed to the way Stone continued to make entries without specifying a date. Other times he is just plain wrong. Whether these errors are new or repeated from the original diary, I cannot determine. Usually the date is only off a day or two, and sometimes the date is correct but not the day of the week. I have left the dates in the diary as Stone wrote them and noted errors only where they affect the significance of the event in question.

Some of the punctuation is unclear in the photocopy of the diary I used to write this article. Commas look like periods, or random spots on the photocopy show up as commas. Since Stone does not use a clear capital letter, it is hard to determine where a sentence ends or begins. I have edited the diary in accordance with principles set forth in the fall 1987 issue of the *Maryland Historical Magazine* (see p. 241).

One other distinction should be made before reading the diary. The Confederate Maryland infantry units were known by several different names. The 1st Maryland Regiment existed from May 1861 until July 1862. After that time another Maryland infantry unit was formed and became known as any of the following: the 1st Maryland Battalion, the Maryland Battalion, the 2d Maryland Battalion, and the 2d Maryland Regiment. These names were used in various official correspondence as well as other sources, making research quite confusing. Here I will use the various names at different times, as does Stone, but with the exception of the 1st Maryland Regiment, all names refer to the organization that served from August 1862 until the surrender in 1865. All references to the 1st Maryland Regiment will be noted as such.

John H. Stone was born on 12 August 1832 in Charles County, Maryland. He was the fifth child and second son of Joseph and Sara Stone. His father, a tax collector for Charles County, owned a large tract of land called Locust Hill. By 1840 Joseph and Sara had six children and owned sixteen slaves.⁶ In April 1846 Joseph Stone died "from a long and painful illness, leaving a wife and several children."⁷ Shortly afterward Sara Stone remarried, and the two youngest children, John and Sallie, were assigned guardians by the Orphan's Court.⁸ John stayed with his uncle, the guardian appointed by the court, for a few years, but eventually went to live with his older brother. This brother, Joseph, was married and owned a farm in Doncaster, a town near Port Tobacco. In 1860 Joseph was the owner of sixteen slaves, and John owned one slave; they both listed their occupation as farmers. Sallie was living with an older sister, serving as a governess for her children. Just before the war began, Sallie married James H. M. Burroughs, a resident of the same county. Burroughs was in the shipping business and owned a schooner. They were married in Baltimore, but whether they returned to Charles County to live is unclear. They did reside in Baltimore after the war.⁹

It is obvious from his writings that Stone was of the Roman Catholic faith. Since Charles and St. Mary's counties were the earliest settlements of the Catholic founders of Maryland, it is not surprising to find a large number of Catholics in the area. In 1860 the Catholic church was the second largest in Charles County.¹⁰ Unfortunately, a fire destroyed most of the records of Catholic parishes in the county, so there is no record of Stone's religious background. His high degree of literacy suggests that he had a good education. At the outbreak of hostilities in 1861 he was a bachelor, probably jointly farming a modest-sized farm with his brother. Francis Leonard Higdon, whom Stone mentions as a friend, lived nearby. Higdon was a teacher, also a bachelor, and lived in Newport, not far from Doncaster.¹¹ Higdon also went off to war and was in the same regiments as Stone.

Probably because they owned slaves, Stone's family was sympathetic to the Confederacy. As far as can be determined, only John left the area to fight, but most of southern Maryland was secessionist, and his family likely approved of his enlistment. The fact that he writes to Sallie would support this theory. Sallie's husband was arrested in 1861 on suspicion of smuggling goods to the Confederacy. Stone, like many young Marylanders in Confederate service, frequently wrote of his desire to "liberate" his native state. He several times noted his hope soon to be marching toward Maryland and was obviously eager to drive the occupying federal troops from it.

Stone never mentioned any of his family in the diary except Sallie, to whom he wrote all the letters. Since Sallie was the only other child who lived with a guardian, and she and John were the two youngest children, they might have had a closer relationship with each other than with their other siblings. It is also possible that Stone wrote other letters to his brother Joseph which have not been preserved. Years after the war, when John retired from business, he went to Baltimore and lived with Sallie, her husband, and a son named John H. Burroughs.

Shortly after the war ended, Stone went back to Charles County to settle the title to some land his father had owned. A deed in the courthouse has John's signature on it as well as those of Sallie and James Burroughs, Joseph Stone and his wife, and another of John's sisters. This signature on the deed offers the only evidence that Stone ever returned to Charles County after the war.¹² Stone's obituary stated that he "was connected with the Wheeler and Wilson Sewing Machine Company in Norfolk and other Southern cities for a number of years."¹³ He died on 6 January 1907 from complications with a broken hip. Sallie's son John admitted Stone to the hospital and must have handled the burial as well, as the tombstone reads, "To my Uncle."¹⁴

1862

This diary of passing events notes from time to time as circumstances will permit is dedicated to my Sister Mrs Sallie M Burroughs, By her brother John H Stone, 1st Lieutenant Co "B" 2d Maryland Battalion C.S.A.¹⁵

On the 15th of June 1862 "Co I" of the 1st Maryland Battalion of Infantry, was mustered out of the Confederate Service, the time for which they had enlisted having expired.

On the following day I together with the most of my Companions, left Staunton for Richmond Virginia where we arrived on the 18th. After remaining in the latter city two weeks, F. L. Higdon and myself concluded to visit our homes in Charles County Maryland, to see our friends and note the changes which had taken place during our absence of the past 12 months.¹⁶ Accordingly on the 3d day of July started from Richmond.

At the close of the first day, we stoped at Mr. G D Pollards, where we were kindly entertained for the night.¹⁷ Early the next morning he agreed to convey us to Loretta [Lorretto] & for which we paid him three dollars and a promise exacted of us to bring him a sack of salt on our return from Maryland. The idea of a person carrying a sack of salt for 30 or 40 miles was so absurd that we readily agreed to comply with his request. At that time salt was quite scarce in Va & worth almost its weight in gold. To avoid any such trouble, we wisely concluded not to return that way. Arriving at Loretta we learned the bridge had been burned, so we hired a boat and crossed the River. From thence we proceeded to Oak Grove. We called on Mr. Reed who kindly transported us across the Potomac, landing us about midnight at Mr. Joseph I Wills.¹⁸ We enjoyed his hospitality until Sunday evening when we resumed our journey homeward distant 16 miles. After four hours rapid walking we arrived home about sunset, much to our relief & the joy of our friends. We had anticipated a pleasant time, but fate decreed otherwise.

On the following Saturday a Regiment of Federal Cavalry arrived in Port-Tobacco. They immediately posted a line of pickets a considerable distance from the vilage, thereby cutting off all communication from my friend Higdon, who was at that time in another portion of the county. As I could not communicate with him and believing it unwise for me to remain at home I concluded to return to Virginia. At sun-set I bade adieu to friends and started for Cob neck where I arrived about midnight. Not being familliar with the road I traveled a considerable distance out of the way, but at last reached Mr. I Semmes' home and after a refreshing sleep I was again ready to resume my journey.¹⁹ The first thing needed was a boat in which to cross the river. Fortunately I had not long to wait. Meeting Capt Shorter I made known to him my situation and he agreed to land me on the Virginia shore if I would give him \$20 which I paid in gold.²⁰

Whilst waiting for the night to set in I was joined by two former comrades, James Dorsett and Tom Green who like myself had concluded it unwise to remain on the Maryland side of the River. They had also been in the Confederate Service one year.²¹



Corp. Francis Leonard Higdon. Higdon served in Company I of the 1st Maryland Infantry, C.S.A. with Stone. His uniform and rank appear to date the photograph to the first half of 1861. (Courtesy of Mrs. Elanor Higdon, Newburg, Md.)

When darkness overshadowed the water, with muffled oars we started on our risky trip. I say risky because we had to pass in sight of & near by a United States revenue cutter commanded by Captain Andrew Frank an individual well known to myself & who at that time would be only too glad to gobble us up.²²

When halfway over the river we were near being run down by a sailing vessel going rapidly under full sail & a fair wind.

After four hours hard rowing we reached the Virginia shore opposite Cob neck much to our relief both in mind and body.

Feeling much too exhausted to proceed farther we concluded to rest until daylight. So we passed the remainder of the night sleeping soundly under the branches of a wild-cherry tree.

Before the sun rose we were in search of the nearest farmhouse which we soon found & had the good luck to get breakfast.

From thence we traveled on to Oakgrove, on to Sparton [Sparta], Port Royal & thence to Ashton, at which place we took the cars from Richmond where we arrived at 3 oclock P.M. completely worn out by our long and tedious travel. A battle between General Jackson & Pope is daily expected & troops are being sent forward as rapidly as possible.²³ You will hear from me later on. Until then good by. As ever I am your devoted brother, John.

Richmond, July 30-62

My Dear Sister

If my preceding letter has been dull reading you must be charitable, as my chances for noting passing events have been very few, but I hope as I proceed, to be able to make this a more interesting letter. General Lee has promised that General Jackson will be in Maryland within the next sixty days, in that event something more exciting

will surely transpire. I hope his prediction will be verified. The weather here is intensely hot & no show for a change.

August 6th. Today 200 Confederate prisoners arrived in camp, having been exchanged.²⁴ They complain of the bad treatment of the Federal soldiers who guarded the prison more especially of the Officers who had charge of the Prison.

Yesterday I had quite an adventure. Feeling warm & tired I concluded to rest a while in the Capitol square. I had been seated but a short time when a girl apparently about 14 years old made her way towards me & took the adjoining seat. From her limping gait I concluded her shoes did not fit comfortably. Being questioned as to cause of her limping, she informed me she could not get shoes to fit consequently was compelled to have them made to order. She then said I have put water in them to make them larger. She also informed me that she wore No 1. I replied if she would keep them on until dry the water would do some good in the way of making them larger. She then informed me she was a member of the Dickson family of Texas. Her parents being dead she was living with a friend who did not treat her kindly, would not allow her to use sugar in her coffee although she had purchased it with her own money. After conversing with her a while longer I took my departure. Just as I was about starting, she wished to know if I used tobacco, being informed that I did she requested me to give her a chew. I handed her piece after biting off a piece she remarked I do not chew because I like tobacco, but merely as a past time. Then I concluded that it was time to leave.²⁵

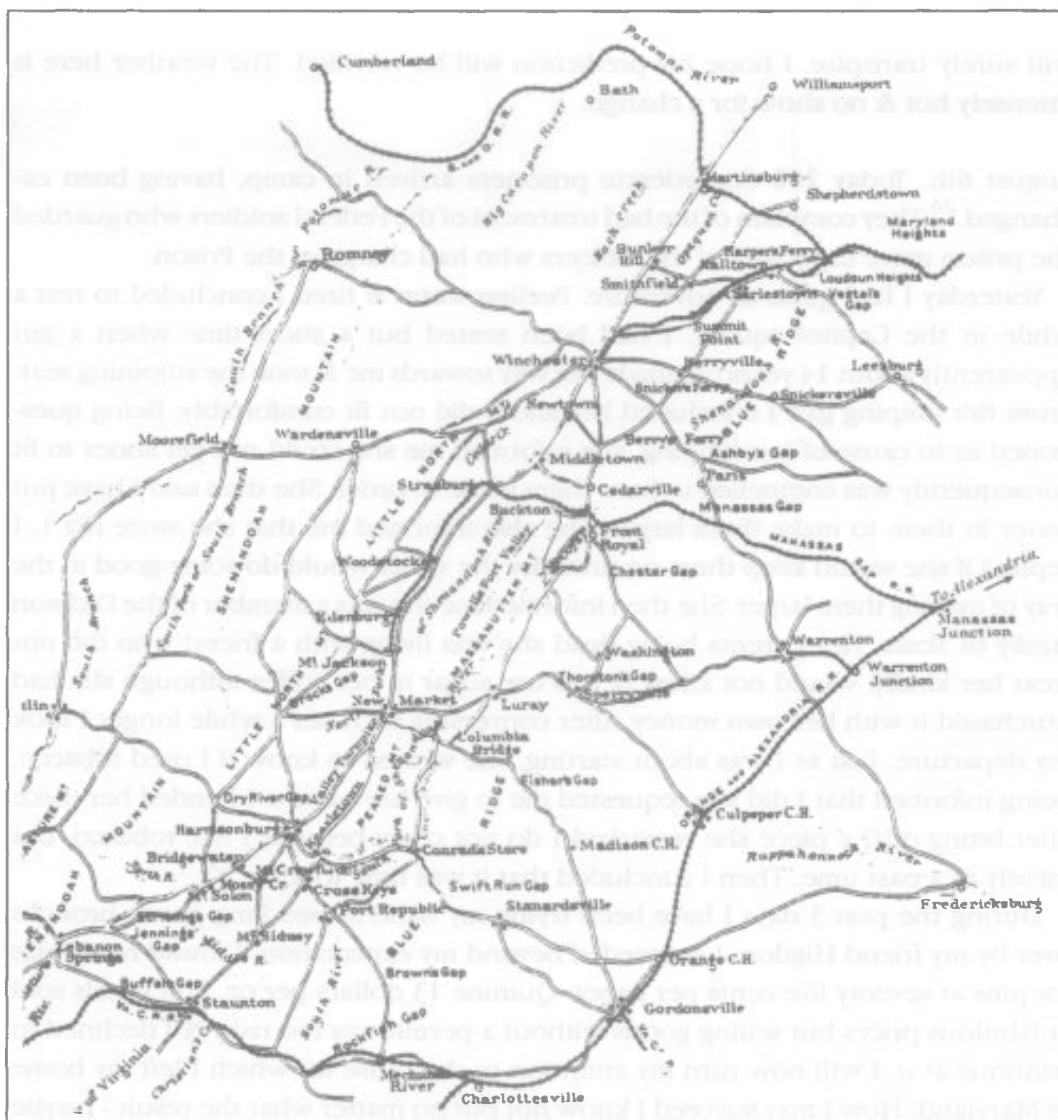
During the past 3 days I have been trying my hand at peddling goods brought over by my friend Higdon. I succeeded beyond my expectation. I found ready sale for pins at seventy five cents per paper. Quinine 13 dollars per oz, knit goods sold at fabulous prices but selling goods without a permit was too risky & I declined to continue at it. I will now turn my attention to the cause for which I left my home in Maryland. How I may succeed I know not but no matter what the result - maybe you will soon hear from me.

As ever your loving Bro John.

Camp Maryland Richmond Va

My Dear Sister

Having concluded to resume my military duties, I had an interview with my friend, Capt. J. Parren Crain of St Mary's County M-d.²⁶ By our united efforts we succeeded in enlisting 75 men, 38 from St Mary's & 37 from Charles co Maryland. We then had an election of officers which resulted in the Election of Crain as Captain & myself as 1st Lieutenant & Chas. Wise & James Wilson as 2d & 3d Lieutenants.²⁷ This election being over we appointed C Craig Page as Orderly Sergeant, we are now in Camp Maryland as you have noticed at heading of this letter.²⁸ My time has been fully occupied in providing Quarter Master & Commissary stores for the men. If an officer wishes to gain the respect & confidence of his men, he must provide for their creature comforts, this I shall endeavor to do regardless of my own comfort. As we wish to be one of the best drilled commands in the service, we drill 3 or 4 hours



Map of the Shenandoah Valley accompanying the report of Gen. Thomas J. Jackson, C.S.A. in *The Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, 1861-1865*, ser. 1, vol. 12, part 1, p. 709.

daily except Sunday. Captain Crain being absent I shall remain in Capt. Our men are enthusiastic & anxious for the fray.

September 10. To-day Co's "A & B" received orders to report at Charlottesville. After two days delay awaiting transportation we left Richmond. Arriving at Gordonsville we were delayed one hour by some unknown cause. From there we proceeded to our present encampment.

At night we were entertained by General A. P. Hill's wife, who played & sang for our benefit. My Maryland being the piece most enjoyed.²⁹ There has been a friendly contest between Co A & B, as to which should be the senior Company both having been mustered into service on the same day. It was at last settled by ballot & won by Captain Murray, which here after will be known as Co "A & ours as Co B"³⁰ To-day

I met a woman of two complexions, white & black. Her hair is short & kinkey like the negro. Her face & feet are black. Her hands & body white. This slave is a wonderful freak of nature. Perhaps in a few years she will be black or white.

Sunday September 14th. At ten oclock to-day I received orders to proceed to Gordonsville to obtain transportation for Co A & B to the Rapid Ann River. At 12 oclock I arrived there, attended to orders and returned to charlottesville in time for dinner. On Tuesday we received orders to proceed to Gordonsville & there await the arrival of Companies C. D& E. Last night for the first time this season Captain Crain, Lt Wilson & myself slept in the open air. About midnight we had to run for the cars to avoid a drenching rain.

Sept 17th. Early this morning we started for Culpeper distant 30 miles. Not being able to obtain seats in the cars we climbed on top and rode safely to our destination.

As ever your affectionate Bro Jno

Camp Maryland Near Winchester³¹

My Dear Sister,

Since my last letter we have undergone a long & tedious march of 60 miles. On last Saturday we received marching orders & on Sunday Sept 21 we started for Winchester, Virginia. After marching 15 miles we went into Camp at Woodville. At sunrise the next morning we resumed our march. We had proceeded but a few miles when the line was halted & a bountiful breakfast was furnished by a wealthy old gentleman who resided near the road. After giving him 3 cheers & a tiger for his kindness we moved on.³²

At midday we halted at Washington & rested for 3 hours. When we again resumed our march passing through a small village near Flint Hill, one mile beyond which we encamped for the night.

Early the next morning we resumed our march for Front Royal where we arrived at 2 oclock. After dinner we again moved on. At South Anna River we had a bad time crossing. The bridge having been washed away we had to cross over in small boats. This caused much delay. At the South Anna there was neither bridge or boats so we forded the stream with little difficulty, after proceeding 3 miles we encamped for the night.³³

Early the next morning we resumed our march & by 3 oclock arrived at Winchester, hungry & tired, having nothing to eat since the day before. Having roamed about the city in search of something to eat & finding nothing we returned to Camp. We soon had a plentiful meal of Beef, Bread & Coffee to which we all did ample justice.

Sept 29. To-day General G H Stewart [Steuart] paid us a visit & suggested that we parade the streets of Winchester, so on the following morning, with colors flying & drums beating we did the town to the apparent delight of all who saw us. The parade over we returned to camp to get a much needed rest & sleep.³⁴

To-day Lt Murray, Lt Wilson & myself have been detailed as a Court Martial to try members of Co A for stragling on the march from Culpeper to Winchester.³⁵

The three companies C D & E having arrived an election for Major has been ordered & Capt J R Herbert was elected on the first ballot.³⁶ I am now officer of the day & must remain in Camp. Nothing of much interest has transpired.

The men are getting tired of Camp duty & are anxiously awaiting a change. We seldom see a newspaper until it is over a week old. Yesterday I was again detailed for guard duty. Having but 3 prisoners confined, had a quiet time.

For several days we have had much rain which causes much annoyance, in the way of wet clothes. Many of the men are destitute of blankets & tents. Consequently they are much exposed in inclement weather. I expect to go to Richmond in a few days to provide such things as we need. Provisions are scarce around Winchester. Yesterday a Lady presented us a fine lot of sweet meats & it is needless to say we enjoyed them.

General Longstreets corps has just passed through Winchester in a drenching rain storm. Poor fellows they are to be pittied, wet to the skin and no change of clothes but such is the fortune of a soldier.

Man that is born of woman & enlists in Jackson's Army, has but few days to live, short rations & much hardtack, sleeps but little & marches many miles.

To-day Capt Crain & Lt Wilson have gone into Winchester, being a lone I have passed a quiet day. The forenoon was pleasant but as evening advanced rain commenced falling, & towards night the atmosphere was quite cold.

October 20th As anticipated last night was a very cold one, I think winter has set in. To-day we have been exercising in the skirmish drill & before returning to Camp we had a sham battle. It was quite exciting. I stormed the fortifications, behind which Capt Crain & his men were posted. I succeeded in Capturing the Captain & many of his men. I then retired in good order taking my prisoners with me to Camp.³⁷

October 23d Yesterday our Battalion paraded the streets of Winchester, admired & applauded by all who saw our movements. Maryland men move with more life than any troops in the Army.

We have returned to Camp & are trying to keep warm by hugging the fire, but it is a fruitless job. My bed of straw look quite inviting so I will turn in for the night.

As ever your affectionate Bro John

October 24-1862

My Dear Sister,

To-day a Priest visited our Camp. It is needless for me to say he is a welcome visitor. Tomorrow he will hear confessions & say Mass. This will give the Catholic's of our Regiment an opportunity of attending to their religious duties, which they have not had an opportunity of doing during the past 2 months. At 10 oclock to-day Mass was celebrated in the Old Stone Church in Winchester.³⁸ I had the happiness of

being present. Owing to the rain but few others except the soldiers attended. Soldiers do not mind rain.

"Died in Camp"

October 25th Today we lost the first member of "Co B." After an illness of nearly two months, Private Samuel Jamison breathed his last.³⁹ His death was caused by inflammation of the bowels. His death was so quiet, that those who were watching by his bed side did not note the moment of his death. He received the last sacrament just before his death. R.I.P.

Last night was anothe[r] cold night, ice made in a warm tent. Thus you can form some idea of the kind of weather we have up here in the mountain.

This morning the sun rose warm giving promise of a pleasant day, which I hope will be verified.

October 29th Thus far the day has been a quiet one. At four oclock "Co B" was ordered into Winchester for guard duty. We had been on duty but a short time when we were called on to quell the riots that were going on in several sections of the City. When soldiers get too much whiskey into their head, they are generally hard to manage, so we were kept quite busy until midnight making arrests & conveying the prisoners to the lock up. I should have said Jail.

October 31st Early this morning we were relieved by Co E commanded by Capt J W Torsch.⁴⁰ I immediately returned to camp with my company to get a much needed rest & sleep.

Nov 2d Today being Saturday we had no drill, but the men were kept busy getting things in order for Sunday's inspection. Near the close of day we received orders to post pickets on the Romney & Pewtown [Pughtown] roads to prevent a surprise from the enemy. Accordingly two pieces of the Baltimore Light Artillery was posted in one of the fortifications in Winchester, & thus guard the approaches to the city from the North & West.⁴¹ At this time all is quiet.

Nov 3d To-day being Sunday we had our usual inspection.⁴² After that I attended Mass, & had the pleasure of hearing a fine sermon by the same Farther who said Mass in our Camp a few days since. Few of the Catholics fail to attend Divine service when an opportunity presents itself.

Nov 5. We have just returned to Camp having been on duty in the city. We made several arrests, among them one woman. The weather is now clear and Cold.

Nov. 7th Yesterday I was detailed for double duty as Officer of the Day & Guard. About midnight I was relieved & returned to my tent. If you have noted carefully

the events chronicled you see I have done my share of duty. I have just drank a cup of hot Coffee & will now turn in & will hope to enjoy a sound sleep until morning.

November 9th At eight oclock this morning snow commenced falling & still continues at this time 8 P.M.⁴³ The weather is very cold & there will be much suffering to night as many of the men are without shoes & blankets & fewer still have any tents to shield them from the intense cold, but on the contrary many will take the frozen ground for a bed & the snow for a covering. I have extended to as many as I can find room to share my tent. A few accepted, others preferring to sleep in their huts made of straw & brush. Yet I know they will be uncomfortable for I am none too warm in my tent.

November 10. Yesterday 100 Federal prisoners arrived in Camp. There is rumor in Camp that we are soon to travel for parts unknown to us at this time. Should this prove to be correct I will advise you in my next letter, but these reports are so frequent & unreliable, we are learning to place little or no reliance in them. As ever your loving Bro John.

Camp Winchester Nov. 12 1862

My Dear Sister,

We are still at Winchester, the order to break Camp, if ever given, has been revoked & the anticipated battle did not take place consequently all is quiet in Camp. Owing to Sickness Captain Crain has gone to Strasburg, & Lieutenant Wilson being absent on duty, leave me but one assistant, Lt Wise.

November 13 The weather at this time is delightful. Many of the men have abandoned the idea that Camp will be broken & are preparing for winter quarters. I have just purchased a Sibly Stove. As you have not seen one I will describe it. It is named after General Sibly who invented it. It is made out of sheet iron & looks like an inverted funnel. I gave 3 dollars for it & would not sell it for twice 3\$. It is quite light, easily carried from place to p[l]ace when needed.⁴⁴

November 16th As usual on guard to-day.

November 17. I was at Mass in the forenoon. Remained in camp afterward.

November 19. During the past two days we have had considerable rain. To-day the sun shines. Yesterday an order was issued by General Jackson prohibiting the men from visiting the city without a pass from General Stewart [Steuart] countersigned by the Col commanding. This order was not issued any too soon, as many have abused the priverlige granted them. To-day "Co B" goes on duty in the City. We anticipate a peasant time as few passes have been granted. As previously stated we had but little trouble, as the Irish Brigade was also on duty.⁴⁵

Tomorrow they leave for the Main Army & then our troubles begin. All of the Army have been ordered from Winchester leaving no troops except the Md Battalion & have been transferred to General Jones Command. Now we are or expect to be foot cavalry in the true sense of the word.⁴⁶ Last night about midnight I was called up & instructed to hold my company in readiness to repel an anticipated attack from the enemy. Fortunately for them & us they did not put in an appearance & we are on duty as usual in Winchester.

November 25. Will long be remembered by the citizens of Winchester for on this day an order was issued to search all houses suspected of having contraband goods. Soon all was commotion.

By 10 o'clock 40,000 dollars worth of manufactured tobacco was in the hands of the soldiers & by four o'clock it was stacked in one huge pile & at 5 o'clock the torch was applied. In less than one hour it was but a pile of ashes.⁴⁷

Nov 26. All is quiet in camp. Last night the Yanks charged our Cavalry picket, wounded one & captured five. During this engagement a terrible storm passed over Camp. Did little damage.

November 29. About midday I was instructed by Major Herbert to take a detail of ten men and proceed up the Romney Road seven miles or more if necessary, in search of two horses that had been stolen. When I reached McFarland's house I found the stolen horses. I took charge of them & returned to camp just in time to bring up the rear of our Battalion which had been ordered out to assist our cavalry. The enemy succeeded in capturing seven of our men. After the surprise we drove them back quite a distance. Later on we returned to Camp.⁴⁸

December 4th. For several days much excitement has prevailed in Camp. To-day the Federal Cavalry made another attack on our cavalry. We were immediately ordered out on the Berryville Road to meet them, but finding them in too large numbers for our small force, we retreated to Strasburg distant 18 miles from Winchester.⁴⁹ At 3 o'clock in the morning we went into Camp having marched all night. After remaining there 3 days we returned to Winchester. On our return to Winchester we had to wade through snow knee deep. Arriving in town we quartered in a few deserted buildings. Having no fire we suffered much from the cold weather. On the following day Major Herbert procured for us more comfortable quarters. We are now having comparatively a nice time. We have but little to do. Drill one hour each day & do guard duty one day in six. Last evening I paid a visit to a Lady friend & spent a couple of hours pleasantly. You can form some idea of the kind of weather we have to endure when I tell you, ice makes in our room each night although we keep fire all night.

Xmas is fast approaching. I have several times wished I could spend that day at home with my friends, but as I know this can not be I must content with myself & wish all a merry Xmas & happy New Year.

Early yesterday we received orders to pack up and proceed to Front Royal. After marching several miles we halted for the night. Next morning we received orders to march to Strasburg. We arrived there about 4 oclock. After being there two days we moved our camp two miles from Strasburg out on the Capron spring road, we immediately set to work & made ourselves comfort-able. How long we are to remain no one knows, perhaps only a day or two.

December 19. As anticipated we have received orders to proceed up the Valley pike as far as General Jone[s]'s camp. Where ever that may be. Proceeding to this unknown place we found to our great disappointment, that the General had proceeded us up the pike. At night encamped near Woodstock. General Jones learning that the enemy was advancing on Strasburg ordered us to proceed down the pike to Mount Jackson, there we Encamped for the night, hungry & tired. Early the next morning we proceeded down the pike to New Market & there encamped for the night. When the Yanks made their appearance at Strausburg they captured the few men we had left there.⁵⁰ These men were suffering from sore feet. During this continued marching Xmas has come & gone forever. We could do no better. As ever your affectionate Bro John

1863

New Market January 1st 1863

My Dear Sister

To-day another year of suffering & blood shed & should this bloody strife continue, sad will be the homes of many, but let us trust in God to end this unholy war.

Early this morning we received orders to cook 4 days rations. This means a long & teadious march is before us.

January 2d At sunrise the Battalion moved out of Camp. After a march of 20 miles, Halted for the night. After posting sentinals, we turned in for the night in order to be prepared for the next day.

January 3d At seven Oclock we resumed our march. We had proceeded about 3 miles when a Courier arrived with instructions to Major Herbert to bring on his men as rapidly as possible, but as we had to cross the river frequently we made but slow progress. Arriving at the West Branch of the Potomac we encamped for the night as we supposed, but scarcely had we built fires, when the order to fall in was given & we resumed our march until we met General Jones & after crossing the same river 3 times in 3 miles we halted for the night wet & hungry.

January 4th To-day we advanced to within five miles of Moorfield [Moorefield, West Virginia].

In the mean time General Jones had received information that the enemy had been strongly reinforced, prudently withdrew his troops & at 3 O'clock we retraced our steps across the mountain. On the 6th day we arrived in Camp completely worn out.⁵¹

January 15. On the 12 I was ordered to proceed with my Company & 3 wagons to Keller's flour mills located 3 miles beyond Woodstock.⁵² At seven in the morning I left Camp with fifty four men. After seven hours rapid marching we arrived at the mills. In a short time I had the wagons loaded & started back to camp. When three miles from the mill we halted for the night having marched 31 miles. Early on the following morning we started for our Camp where we arrived in time for supper. Many of the men suffered considerably from the long march.

January 17. We are now comfortably located but how long we will remain here is yet to be learned.

Having nothing much to do I concluded to make myself a pair of pants a garment I was much in need of. I finished them before night & consider them well made & a good fit. So much for my early training. To-day being Sunday we will have our usual inspection. We are still in camp because the snow is too deep for us to travel & many of the men have no shoes. We had orders to move, but thanks to the snow the order was revoked.

Captain Crain is expected to return to camp to-day he has been absent on sick leave since the middle of October.

Jan 25th. To-day we received 3 days rations with orders to cook at once & be ready to move early in the morning. When we had cooked two days rations, we were notified that should we not finish in time the deficiency would be made up by hardtack & beef.

There was much excitement in Camp this morning owing to an Election for Lieutenant Colonel having been ordered.

At 8 o'clock we commenced to ballot, on The Second count Major Herbert was declared Elected Lt Col. & Capt W. W Goldsborough was elected Major.⁵³ After a ringing speech from our new Col we prepared to leave Camp & started down the valley Pike.

At 4 o'clock we arrived at Edenburg [Edinburg, Virginia] where we encamped for the night. Early the next morning we received orders to return to our old camp. After sleeping in the snow for two nights we were anxious to return, although we knew we would have to wade knee deep through the snow. After breaking a track for seven miles we reached Mount Jackson. From there we had good marching until we reached camp in good order but much exhausted.

February 1st. This month has set in with a fearful snow storm. The snow is now two feet deep & is still falling. The weather is now the coldest I have experienced since

I have been in Virginia. I have just made myself a Walnut clothes chest & intend to bring it home if I succeed in keeping it in my possession. You see I am a carpenter as well as a tailor. Many of Burnside's troops are deserting & coming into our lines.⁵⁴ From ten to fifteen arrive daily & if this continues much longer his fighting strength will be considerably reduced. At the present time we have but little to do except Eat, smoke &, sleep.

February 10. Yesterday we had our usual snow storm. Late in the day turned to rain & hail. Having nothing much to do I concluded to change my coat from sack to frock. In two days I completed the job. Now I have a coat & cape which I can remove at pleasure.⁵⁵ We have a second edition of the previous snow storm with rain & hail. Before one snow melts another follows thus keeping the earth covered with a white mantle.

February 15th We have just had our usual Sunday inspection.

We have just received orders to proceed to Woodstock. We were soon on the road. At night we went into camp 2 miles from Edenburg [Edinburg] & 19 miles from New Market, our old camp.

The enemy are near by, but whether they will give battle remains to be seen. I am now officer of the day. I was up at 3 oclock this morning & have been on duty since. A little sleep will not do me any harm. A rumor is going the rounds of the camp to the effect that we are going to have a brush with the enemy, but grape vine telegraph is never reliable. More snow to-day. Capt Crain returned to camp to-day having been absent four months.

I was much surprised this morning to find 12 inches of snow on the ground. Being detailed as officer of the guard, I was compelled to get up at 4 oclock in the morning much against my inclination. You see I do not get more than my share of rest, but I do not complain.

February 22. This being Washingtons birth day we had the pleasure of listening to a fine address delivered by Lieutenant J B Franklin of Annapolis.⁵⁶

February 23 This morning the sun rose warm & bright giving promise of a fair day.

February 25 Yesterday a messenger arrived in Camp bringing the startling news that the enemy had driven in our picket. Col Herbert immediately ordered Major Goldsborough to take co's A. B. & C & proceed down the pike as far as Woodstock, but before the order could be executed the long role [roll] was sounded, then all was commotion in Camp.⁵⁷ In a few minutes we were on the road, after marching 4 miles in the direction of the Enemy we halted & awaited further orders. An hour later General Jones arrived & ordered us to Remain in our position for the present. He then proceeded down the pike with about 300 Cavalry. One hour later he encountered the enemy seven hundred strong. Succeeded in repulsing them

capturing about 200 which he brought into camp, many of them being covered with mud from head to foot. The pursuit extended about ten miles. This being accomplished we were ordered back to camp where we slept undisturbed for the remainder of the night.⁵⁸ I will now close this letter, but promise to let you hear from me again in a short time. As ever your affection. Bro John

March 1, 1863

My Dear Sister,

Nothing of much interest has transpired since I closed my last letter. During the morning rain commenced falling. High winds and clear cold.

We have just received orders to strike tents and be ready to move at a moments notice. Finding the report that the Enemy were advancing false, orders to pitch tents was given. This means we are to remain a while longer in our old Camp.

March 2d I am officer of the guard have been on duty six hours. A fearful snow storm prevailing all the while. At midnight the storm subsided and the stars shone brightly. The remainder of the night was clear but intensely cold. I have confined in the guardhouse a man named William Smun who was captured within our lines & supposed to be a Spy. He is heavily ironed & closely guarded. His irons are examined every two hours to see they are secure. Although believed to be an enemy I have compassion on him & see that he is as comfortable as circumstances will permit. He was captured last spring but escaped from Jail. I am sure he will not escape a second time.⁵⁹

March 5. Weather cold and clear.

March 6th Snow & rain all day.

March 7. Rain in the morning. Rain at night with prospect for clearing.

Mch 8 Clear in the morning rain at night. Thus you see the weather is anything but pleasant. The suny South is a misnomer. It should be Snow & Rainy South. This Valley is an uncertain place as regards to Weather. Snow one day, rain the next & then clear. Yesterday four young Ladies visited our Camp to view the parade & guard mount.⁶⁰ Whilst the parade was going on their horse took fright, ran off & smashed their wagon. Later in the evening the Ambulance was utilized in conveying them home.

March 16th The past few days have been warm & pleasant. I had scarcely pen[n]ed these lines when snow, rain & Hail commenced falling & from appearances may continue for some time.

March 18. For the past few days we have been moving like the pendulum of a clock. First up & then down the Valley. In fact we have accomplished but little. March &

counter march has been the order. This I presume has been done for some good purpose & will develop in time. If we could but read the future (which is wisely withheld) we would do many things quite different.

March 25th This day has been set apart by P[r]esident Davis as a day of fasting & prayer.⁶¹ There has been a great deal of fasting but I fear little praying. We fast more or less each day simply because we cannot get the food to eat. This morning on this same fast day we received orders to march up the valley for a lot of pig iron. Surely they are not going to feed us on iron, the hard tack is tough enough.⁶² At 6 oclock A.M. agreeably to previous orders, we started on our journey. At 4 PM halted at Edenburg having traveled 24 miles & as usual I was detailed as officer of the guard. At nine oclock I retired for the night & slept soundly until one in the morning when I was awakened by rain falling on my face. Finding I could not sleep I folded up my blankets & sat by the fire until morning. At six oclock the order to fall in line was given. In a few minutes we were on our way back to Camp, where we arrived in good condition having marched 54 miles in 36 hours rain falling all the way back to Camp. Being much exhausted from our long march we had no inspection today. The weather has been clear & warm, something unusual. Adieu for the present. John.

New Market Va April 1, 1863

My Dear Sister

To-day being all fools day both officers & men have been the subject of much fun. The days are growing longer & as we have but little to do the time passes slowly. Ere long we expect to have more to do than we can conveniently accomplish.

Provisions are becoming scarcer in the Valley. Thinking you might like to know how things sell here I will state a few articles. Flour \$20 per Barrel, Corn Meal \$25 per Barrel. Bacon 1.75 per pound. Potatoes \$8 per bushels Butter \$2 per pound. Dried Apples 50 cents per quart Green apples \$30 per bushels Peas & Beans none to be had. Cabage 50 cents a piece. Onions scarce sugar \$1.25 per pound Coffee \$4 lb Black peper \$4 per pound Soda \$4 per pound. Washing soap small cake \$1.00. Cloths out of sight Cap \$10 Coat \$125 Pants \$50 Vest \$20 Boots \$50 Shoes \$15 to \$30 Wollen shirts \$20 Maryland buttons \$1 Drawers \$5 Blankets \$30 each Coffee Pot \$3 Tin plates \$1 each Tin cups 50 cents each, needles \$5 per paper, Pins \$1 per paper. These are the prices asked & received in the Valley of Virginia.⁶³ As ever your loving Bro Jno.

April 2d 1863

My Dear Sister,

Nearly all the Ladies we meet are dressed in black. This shows how fatal has been the Federal bullets. Scarcely a family but what has lost one or more. Either Husband, Father or Son gone down to an untimely grave. To-day Capt Gwynn & myself visited Moor's Cave. It is narrow & deep & about 600 feet long.⁶⁴ Finding nothing of special interest we returned to camp just in time for dinner, our appetites being whetted

by our travels to & from the Cave. After dinner I enjoyed a smoke, after which we had company drill. Near the close of day a dark cloud arose indicating more bad weather, but fortunately for us the wind changed & the storm passed off in another direction.

April 3d This had been an unusual day for this latitude, but towards night the air changed from warm to cold & as usual the night was cold. Good Friday has passed some observed it, many did not. By dispensation we are allowed to eat meat on Friday, but not good Friday. Yesterday & to-day we had no drill. The weather was cold & stormy. Yesterday a member of Captain Goldsborough['s] company, was taken with a congestive chill & died in a few hours. He was a member of the Catholic church.

Easter Sunday April 5.

At one oclock last night snow commenced falling & continued until Sunrise this morning.

At seven oclock this morning I started for Harrisonburg for the purpose of getting a coffin & a Priest to bury our deceased Comrade. Arriving there I was informed that Father Bixio was absent in Staunton.⁶⁵ After making all arrangements I returned to Camp. At 4 oclock the funeral took place & Whalen was interred under a large oak tree near the parade ground.⁶⁶ Two hours after a race was made between two horses one owned by Lt Blackstone [Blackistone] the other by Lt Dorsey of the Cavalry.⁶⁷ The race was run over a portion of the same ground over which the funeral had just passed. This was too bad for men professing christianity. In vindication of our holy riligion, neither of them are Catholic. And this on Easter Sunday.

April 6th All quiet in camp weather clear & Cold. High Winds. As usual we drill twice each day. Yesterday April 5 drill was omitted.

April 11. For several days quiet has prevailed. We are expecting soon to move camp but where none seems to know. The impression is into Maryland but I have heard that so often & each time been disappointed I begin to think we may never reach there, but these reports are generally followed by a move in some direction. Orders for a long march received. About night Father Bixio arrived in Camp to the great joy of the Catholic portion of the Battalion.

The Early part of Monday night was consumed in hearing confessions. Early Tuesday morning Mass was celebrated on an Altar built by myself & a few others. Col Herbert gave up his tent to Father Bixio. The Altar was rather rough as we had to build it out of unplanned plank, but when covered had quite a neat appearance. About 75 received Holy Communion. The following day Father Bixio heard the confessions of those who being on duty could not go the first day. That night we received orders to pack wagons & be ready to move at a moments notice. The Federals are reported to be moveing in large numbers toward our Camp. Arriving

at Shenandoah River & finding it too much swollen to ford in safety they turned back & I am mighty glad they did as I was much opposed to turn out in such a rain storm to meet any one.⁶⁸

April 16. We are still under marching orders. Nothing disturbed Camp yesterday.

April 18. All quiet in camp & no drill to-day.

Sunday April 19. To-day is the Anniversary of the Battle of Baltimore. When the citizens attempted to prevent the 6th Massachusets from passing through the city.⁶⁹

We had quite a fire in camp to-day. It burned rapidly for a while, but was extinguished by hard work of the men after a total loss of one jacket one blanket one musket & one cartridge box. Total value \$50. No insurance.⁷⁰ At last we have received orders to prepare for a ten days march. I will leave the result as the subject of my next letter. Until then Goodby. As ever your Affectionate Bro John.

On the move Tuesday April 21. 63

My Dear Sister,

At six a.m the drum sounded Reveille [reveille] & in a few minutes we started down the valley pike as far as Spata [Sparta, Virginia] there we took the road to the left arriving at Koutzs [Cootes'] store we encamped for the night. At sunrise next morning we resumed our march crossing the Shannadoah [Shenandoah] river fifteen times we halted near the foot of the mountain. Next morning we again resumed our march up the mountain & then down on the other side & after crossing a river twenty six times we encamped within four miles of the City of Moorfield [Moorefield]. Next day at 8 oclock we resumed our march & halted near the city. "Co B" was detailed to guard the city. The citizens received us kindly & did all in their power to make our stay agreeable. They would receive no pay for the meals they furnished us. My headquarters was in the Court house.⁷¹

Sunday April 26th. At ten Oclock 86 Federal prisoners arrive in Camp under a Covalry [cavalry] guard. They were captured by General Jones after a stubborn fight, near Moorfield.⁷² On Monday morning we broke Camp & started on our homeward trip. When 3 miles on the road we were ordered back to repulse the Enemy who report said were persuing us.⁷³ This report like many others proved to be untrue. After this we continued our march to near Petersburg where we encamped for the night. On the following morning we resumed our march going by way of Franklin.

During the day we met a boy on an ox with two bags of meal. We enjoyed the novel way of transporting his provision home from the mill. At 4 Oclock we reached the top of the mountain, from which we had a beautiful view of the surrounding Country for at least 100 miles. Shortly after we commenced the descent rain commenced falling & continued until we reached the plain below. After clearing up for a while it set in & continued all night causing us anything but pleasure. Early the next morning we resumed our march crossing & recrossing that same old stream

26 times. We went into Camp near Harrisonburg. Thus ended our march of 160 miles over one of the roughest roads in West Virginia.⁷⁴ I trust we will have a few days rest. Will inform you in my next letter of the result so Good by until then. As ever your affectionate Bro John.

Harrisonburg May 10 -

My Dear Sister

As promised in my last letter I will give you the results of my trip to Richmond & back to camp.

May 1. On this day I received orders to convey the Prisoners Captured at Moorfield, to Liby [Libby] prisin at Richmond Va.⁷⁵

Detailing 18 men from my own company & 18 from other companies I started with 92 Prisoners all told. Reached Staunton at 5 oclock May 2d having marched twenty five miles. As no train could be had we encamped on the hill just out of the city. The following day being Sunday and no trains moving we remained in Camp until Monday morning. When we took the first train to Charlottesville & there changed cars for Lynchburg. When about 30 miles from charlottesville two trains collided, by which our engine was somewhat damaged. After consuming two hours repairing the damage we proceeded on but at a slow rate of speed, arriving at Lynchburg at 11 o clock that night. I marched prisoners to the Provo Martial office [Provost Marshal] turned them over to Lieutenant Robert Shinn where they remained until 6 PM the next day.⁷⁶ Having provided quarters for my men, I repaired to the Hotel where I remained during my stay in that city. At 6 PM I started in a drenching rain for Richmond. At midnight we changed cars at Burkeville, & after an uneventful run of six hours reached our destination Richmond with our full number of prisoners & men. Arriving at Liby Prison I turned the Federal Prisoners over to Capt Hunter who had charge of the Prison department.⁷⁷ When taking leave of them they feelingly thanked me for the uniform kindness shown them on the march, which they received whilst in my charge. I acted to-wards them & I would wished to be treated had I been in their custody. They assured me, Should the fate of war ever place me in their keeping I would receive none but the kindest treatment. After discharging this duty I dismissed my men until the following day. Late in the evening the following day we started back to Camp. After many disappointments in the way of transportation I arrived at Harrisonburg Completely broken down from our fatiguing journey. I immediately reported the result of my trip & was discharged.

May 12. Moved Camp to-day about 3 miles down the Valley Pike.

May 14. Weather warm & dry. quiet prevails in camp, but always a calm before a Storm. We expect to hear startling news before many days. For the past few days we have done but little except drill a short while each day. The weather is intensely hot. At 3 oclock we received orders to go to Strasburg on picket duty, Strasburg is fifty miles distant from our present Camp. We fully expect a skirmish with the enemy before returning if we ever return. Our boys are anxious for the fray.

No rain up to this writing, although much needed. Prospects good. In obedience to orders we started for Strasburg where no doubt an active picket duty awaits us. As the Enemy are in strong force nearby My company being on duty in Harrisonburg I have been detailed to remain in camp in charge of the sick who have been left. This is the first time I have been absent from my company since we were mustered into service.

Another month has passed & we are but little nearer to our native state than we were four months ago. We have just received orders to be ready to move early in the morning when Capt Crain shall arrive from Harrisonburg. I will inform you of the outcome of this last order, in my next letter. As ever your affectionate Bro John

On the Move June 1 - 63

My Dear Sister

At 12 o'clock to-day Captain Crain with Co B" arrived from Harrisonburg where they had been on duty. After resting two hours we started on our march, & at sunset Encamped at New Market. After breakfast at New Market we continued our march to Woodstock.

Early Wednesday June 3d Lieutenant Murphy Aide to General Jenkins, arrived in Camp with instructions for us to hurry up as the Enemy was advancing.⁷⁸ Early the next day we reached Fisher Hill having marched 45 miles in less than two days. No Enemy. General Jenkins is now commanding the Confederate forces in the Valley. To-day a review was ordered. After some delay the line was formed comprising Infantry, Cavalry, & Artillery. All told about 3000.⁷⁹ After the review we returned to Camp much exhausted from standing so long in hot sun. Later in the day we held an election for Corporal. The candidates were Wm F. Wheatly brother or nephew of Miss Kate Wheatly of Charles Co & J F Duke from St Marys County. After the third ballot Wheatly was declared elected & [an] other election then held for Company Commissary in which Charles was again victorious having Elected Fred Groves over Bond of St Marys.⁸⁰

June 6. We are near the enemy & expect soon to be much nearer. To-day is the Anniversary of the battle of Harrisonburg in which Captain M S Robertson was killed in the battle with the Pennsylvania Buck Tail 1862, and how soon our trial will begin none can tell.⁸¹ Captain Robertson was detailing to me the future pleasure he would have after we should be mustered out of service. This was just one hour before the fatal bullet pierced his body killing him almost instantly. One hour before his death I warned him of the uncertainty of the future but to improve the present as that alone was his.

The weather is warm. Crops are suffering for want of rain. Yesterday we received order[s] to advance but General Lee has countermanded the order.

General Bradley T Johnson has been assigned to command all of the Maryland troops in the Valley.⁸² We are now encamped at Oak Grove. The woods is full of locust one cannot sleep on account of their perpetual singing. Early today we moved

down the Valley to Cedar Run & at 10 O'clock commenced skirmishing with the Enemy.

June 14 To-day we had quite an engagement & we were quite fortunate having lost but 4 men. Early on the 15th we stormed the Enemy who were entrenched behind the Earth works in the City of Winchester. We Captured 5000 prisoner 27. cannon, several thousand stand of small arms & a vast quantity of Commissary & Quarter-master stores. After the fight I was on duty until night.⁸³ Early the next morning we left Winchester & moved in the direction of Maryland. When about 5 miles out from Winchester Our Command was transfered to General Geo H Steuart['s 3rd] Brigade⁸⁴

I will close now for the present but will in my next detail our trip into Maryland. As ever your affectionate Bro John.

On the road Home June 16 1863

My Dear Sister

We have started for My Maryland. After halting a short while at Smithfield moved on & Encamped near Shepherdstown where we remained one day.

June 19. Forded the Potomac river water waist deep. Current very rapid. Raining quite fast. When we crossed the canal General Stewart [Steuart] dismounted & kissed the ground, at sight of which the men sent up one long loud shout for My Maryland.⁸⁵

We then marched to Hagerstown where we encamped for the day & night. Whilst in Hagerstown I visited Judge Richard H Alvey who kindly supplied [supplied] us with tobacco.⁸⁶ Our command did picket duty whilst there.

June 23. We are now in Pennsylvania h[a]ving passed through Newberry, Greencastle, Mercersburg & encamped near McConnellsburg. Early the next day started for Chambersburg, passed through Loudon & St Thomas.⁸⁷ At each place the inhabitants seemed much astonished at seeing so many soldiers. Some expressed the belief that nearly the entire world had turned out to pay them a visit. At night we encamped near Chambersburg. Leaving the last named city we passed through Scotland, Shippensburg & Encamped near Upton. On the following day we continued our march passing through several small towns & went into camp at Holly Spring about 4 miles from Carlisle, where we received orders to make ourselves comfortable.⁸⁸ One hour later the long role [roll] was sounded, we were instructed to be ready to move early the next morning.

July 1. In compliance to orders early in the morning we were on the road as we supposed, to Carlisle, but when we reached the pike the Command Head of column to the Left was given then we knew we were retracing our steps to some unknown point.⁸⁹ The day proved to be a very warm one. About 1 o'clock the sound of battle reached us. A few minutes later a Courier arrived with orders to hurry up. The men, though considerably broken down by the long marches cheerfully responded & in



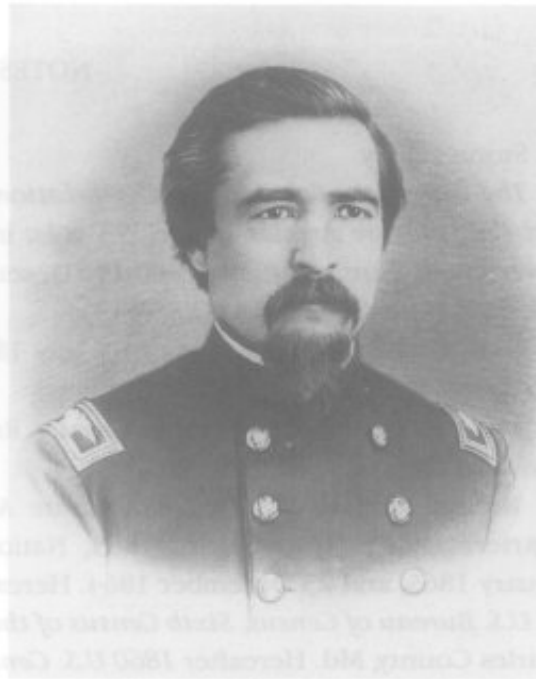
The Battle of Gettysburg. Steuart's Brigade assaults Culp's Hill on the morning of July 3, 1863. Engraving by A. C. Redwood, 1884. (Prints and Photographs, Maryland Historical Society.)

a few minutes we were moving rapidly [rapidly] to the field of battle, which proved to be Gettysburg.

About 4 o'clock we met many prisoners who were being taken to the rear, many of them being badly wounded. Also many of our men wounded. It was I assure anything but a pleasant sight. We hurried on and soon reached the battle field, at least a portion of it. Side by side could be seen the Gray & Blue, stretched cold in death. On we marched until we crossed the rail road track near the depot, by this time the first days battle was virtually over.⁹⁰ By eight o'clock we were in line of battle with picket line well advanced. In this position we remained until 4 o'clock July 2d. at which time the signal gun was fired and then we commenced our advance. We knew not the fate that awaited many of us that night & the following day. Scarcely had we reached the creek that runs by the foot of the mountain when we were fired upon by the Enemy who were Ambushed near by. Four of Co B" fell wounded and many others along the line. The fire was returned by the left platoon of my company. This caused the Federals to retreat rapidly up the Mountain side closely followed by our own troops. The fighting then commenced in reality and continued until 10 o'clock at night, by which time we had driven them out of two lines of fortifications. In this night engagement we lost many killed & wounded. The Enemy's loss must have been much worse than ours.⁹¹

The worst was to Come. At early dawn on the morning of the 3d the slaughter began & continued to rain shell & shot until about 4 Ock P.M. when the fighting was practically over. So terrific was the strife, that scarcely a leaf or limb was left on the surrounding trees.

Col. Edward B. Sawyer, 1st Vermont Cavalry, U.S.A., the man who, according to Stone, captured his diary and returned it to him after the war. (National Archives, 111-BA-780.)



At times one could feel the earth tremble, so fearful was the Cannonading. After having made arrangements for the burial of the dead & the caring for the wounded who had to be left in the Enemys lines, we prepared to return to Virginia. Time will never tell the number killed at Gettysburg.⁹² On the morning of July the 4th we left that bloody field & wended our way back to the Potomac. I had little to eat until we reached Hagerstown, from the effects of which I was nearly played out. Arriving at the Potomac & finding no Pontoons we had to wade the Potomac, which was up to our arms & running quite swift. Scarcely had we gotten over when the Enemy who had been following us opened fire on us which was returned by our battery which had the effect of causing them to retreat.⁹³

The foregoing chapters are a correct transcript of notes taken from my diary which was captured by Lt Col Ed B Sawyer of Vermont, Who after a lapse of 32 years, has returned the little volume.⁹⁴ After we returned to Virginia I decided to keep no more notes of events which might occur, so thus ends my letters.⁹⁵ I am ever your affectionate Bro John

In toil and battle for four long years,
I did a soldier's duty;
When pleasure Called I closed my ears
And turned my eyes from beauty.
The wanton's tale of boasted bliss,
I heard but near believed it;
So back I've brought that parting kiss
as pure as I received it.

John H Stone 1895

NOTES

1. Stone's diary.
2. *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies* (4 ser., 73 vols. in 128 parts; Washington, D.C.: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1880-1901), ser. 1, vol. 27, part 1, p. 994, part 2, pp. 309, 322. Hereafter cited as *O.R.*
3. G. G. Gwilletto to his mother, 17 July 1863, near Darkesville, Va. (Erick Davis Collection, Baltimore).
4. Minutes of the 1st Vermont Cavalry Regiment Reunion Meetings, Lanpher Memorial Library, Hyde Park, Vt.
5. Letters received by the Confederate Adjutant and Inspector General and Quartermaster's Offices, 1861-1865, National Archives, Washington, D.C., 13 January 1865, and 23 December 1864. Hereafter DNA.
6. *U.S. Bureau of Census, Sixth Census of the United States, 1840*, Hilltop District, Charles County, Md. Hereafter *1860 U.S. Census*.
7. *Port Tobacco Times*, 23 April 1846.
8. Orphan's Court Records, Charles County, 1850, estate of Joseph Stone.
9. *1860 U.S. Census*, Hilltop District, Charles County, Md.
10. *Ibid.*
11. *Ibid.*
12. Land Records, 1868, 1870, Charles County, Md.
13. *Baltimore Sun*, 8 January 1907.
14. Death Certificate, John H. Stone. Baltimore City Bureau of Vital Statistics; gravestone, John H. Stone, Cathedral Cemetery, Baltimore.
15. Sallie was the youngest child of Joseph and Sara Stone. She was married to James H. M. Burroughs on 6 February 1861.
16. Francis Leonard Higdon had formerly taught school in Charles County and was mustered out of Company I as a sergeant. Orphaned at an early age, Higdon was raised by his uncle, Leonard Farrell. In 1860, Higdon was listed as living in Newport (Orphan's Court Records, Land Records, Charles County, Md.). See also *1860 U.S. Census* and service record, F. L. Higdon, DNA.
17. In 1860 G. D. Pollard owned a farm in Caroline County, Va., a town about twenty-five miles northeast of Richmond (1860 U.S. Census).
18. Stone was wrong. There was never a bridge across the Rappahannock River at Loretto. Joseph Wills, a farmer, lived in Thompkinsville, Charles County, Md. *1860 U.S. Census*.
19. There were several Semmes families living near Cob Neck, now known as Cobb Island (*ibid.*).
20. Capt. Shorter was most likely William Shorter, a resident of Cob Neck and owner of a bay vessel (*ibid.*).

21. James Dorsett and Tom Green also had served in Company I, 1st Maryland Regiment. Green had been a corporal and Dorsett a private; neither enlisted in the 2d Maryland Infantry (Compiled Service Records, DNA).

22. This revenue cutter probably was attached to the Potomac River flotilla. Captain Andrew Frank had just been transferred on 10 July to the U.S.S. *Stepping Stone*, a light-draft river steamer. Frank may have known Stone through Frank's activities suppressing rebel sympathizers in Southern Maryland. Frank also had been involved in impounding the schooner *Remittance*, a vessel belonging to Stone's brother-in-law, James H. M. Burroughs, who was accused of smuggling contraband materials. *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies* (30 vols.; Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1869) 4:640-41, 678-79; 7:563.

23. The battle Stone expected did take place at Cedar Mountain, Va., but not until 9 August 1862.

24. In July 1862 the first formal prisoner-of-war exchanges took place at Aiken's Landing, Va. By 1 August Confederate prisoners from Ft. Warren in Boston had been released at Aiken's Landing, and Stone probably referred to these men. (*O.R.*, ser. 2, 4:83-84, 291-95, 394-95).

25. Stone may have had an encounter here with a practitioner of the "oldest profession." Many "virtueless women" inhabited the public places in wartime Richmond; meeting one on a bench in the Capitol Square would not have been unusual. See Bell I. Wiley, *The Life of Johnny Reb* (Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday and Co., 1943), pp. 53-54.

26. James Parren Crane was a native of St. Mary's County.

27. Charles Wise and James Wilson, the other two officers, were also from Southern Maryland; Wise had served in a militia company with Crain before the war. See Roster of Officers of the Maryland Militia, St. Mary's County, 1860, Maryland State Archives.

28. C. Craig Page is difficult to identify. One source, W. W. Goldsborough, *The Maryland Line in the Confederate Army, 1861-1865* (Baltimore: Kelly, Piet, and Co., 1869), never listed him as sergeant. Another source, Clement A. Evans, ed., *Confederate Military History*, vol. 2, (Atlanta: Confederate Publishing Co., 1889), lists Phillip Reeder as first sergeant and Craig as first sergeant later in the war. Craig's service record does not prove conclusively when he was promoted. He was killed in action 19 August 1864.

29. Mrs. Kitty Hill, wife of A. P. Hill, accompanied her husband from Richmond in late July but evidently took temporary residence in Charlottesville while her husband fought at Cedar Mountain, Second Manassas, and in the Maryland campaign. See James I. Robertson, Jr., *General A. P. Hill, The Story of a Confederate Warrior* (New York: Random House, 1987), pp. 99 and 152.

"My Maryland" was a song written to appeal to the people of Maryland to secede from the Union. It was popular with Confederates in general and Maryland Con-

federates in particular. Harry Wright Newman, *Maryland and the Confederacy* (Annapolis: n.p., 1976), pp. 153-56.

30. Captain William H. Murray of Anne Arundel County was commander of Company A of the 2d Maryland. The contest for seniority between him and Crain was very serious; command of the unit would be decided by seniority. Crain appealed to several people to decide the dispute; all ruled in favor of Murray. Still unsatisfied, Crain appealed to General William E. Jones, who suggested they draw lots. Murray won, and the dispute was ended (Goldsborough, *Maryland Line*, pp. 85-86).

31. Camp Maryland was one mile west of Winchester on the Romney Pike, present-day U.S. Route 50. The Marylanders were camped near the home of Col. Angus McDonald, whose wife, Corneilia, recorded in her diary, "The Maryland Line is camped near us and we see them every day." See Corneilia McDonald, *A Diary with Reminiscences of the War and Refugee Life in the Shenandoah Valley 1860-1865* (Nashville, Tenn.: Cullom and Ghertner, 1934), p. 96.

32. A "tiger" was a type of exclamation added to the end of a traditional "three cheers" to show added appreciation.

33. Stone obviously erred in naming these rivers. The two rivers that join at Front Royal are the North and South forks of the Shenandoah. The Marylanders were stationed on the banks of the South Anna River, a few miles north of Richmond, during the winter of 1863-64. Perhaps Stone confused the two names in his memory.

34. General George H. Steuart had been assigned to command the northern Shenandoah Valley with his headquarters at Winchester on 21 September 1862. His suggestion that the Marylanders parade the town may have been a means of determining their suitability for a provost guard that Steuart was forming. Steuart was charged with the responsibility to "keep perfect order and quiet throughout the neighborhood" (O.R., series 1, vol. 19, p. 614).

Steuart was an officer in the U.S. Army for many years before the Civil War. At the outbreak of the war he resigned his commission and soon was serving in the 1st Maryland Infantry. He was promoted to brigadier general and commanded a brigade in Jackson's Valley Campaign. He had been wounded at the battle of Cross Keys and was just returning to duty. See McHenry Howard, *Recollections of a Maryland Confederate Soldier and Staff Officer under Johnson, Jackson, and Lee* (Baltimore: Williams & Wilkens, 1914), p. 178.

35. Lt. Clapham Murray was the younger brother of Capt. William Murray of Company A. Clapham was a second lieutenant in the same company. This court martial indicated the high level of discipline in the Maryland Battalion (Compiled Service Records, DNA).

36. Maj. James R. Herbert was from Howard County and had served in the 1st Maryland Infantry as a captain. He was later elected lieutenant colonel and was wounded at Gettysburg. He survived the war and later became a general in the Maryland National Guard and police commissioner of Baltimore. See Robert Krick, *Lee's Colonels* (Dayton, Ohio: Morningside Bookshop, 1979), p. 174.

37. The sham battle and skirmish drill were common training techniques for new troops.

38. The priest whom Stone mentions was probably Father Michael Costello from the Catholic church in Harpers Ferry. Sacred Heart Church in Winchester was a mission of St. Peter's for some time before and during the war. The church could have been either Sacred Heart, built of stone and standing on a hill at the end of East Street (it was used by occupying troops as a stable and was burned in 1864) or the Old Stone Church on Piccadilly Street in Winchester, which was not used for regular services and was demolished during the war. (*Catholic Directory*, vol. 61, p. 34, Catholic Archives, Baltimore; Lacina and Thomas, *History of Sacred Heart Parish* [Winchester, Va.: n.p., 1953], pp. 23, 58; Quarles R. Garland, *The Churches of Winchester, Virginia* [Winchester, Va.: Farmers and Merchants National Bank, 1960], pp. 46-58).

39. Samuel Jamison does not appear on any rosters of the Maryland Battalion, nor does he have a compiled service record in the National Archives. A grave in the Maryland section of the Stonewall Cemetery in Winchester reads "S. Jameston, First Maryland Battalion, October 25, 1862." Why he is not listed on any rosters is a subject for speculation. See also Kurtz and Ritter, *Roster of Confederate Soldiers Buried in Stonewall Cemetery, Winchester, Virginia*, pamphlet, Handley Library, Archives Room, Winchester, Virginia.

Jameston tombstone, Stonewall Cemetery, Winchester, Va.

40. Capt. John W. Torsch was mustered in as captain of Company E earlier that year. By the end of the war, he was the senior officer left in the battalion and commanded it at Appomattox. (Compiled Service Records, DNA).

41. The Baltimore Light Artillery was also known as the 2d Maryland Artillery. It was assigned to General Steuart to strengthen his garrison forces that fall (Goldsborough, *Maryland Line*, p. 285).

42. The regulations at the time called for weekly inspections of all the men and their equipment (*Revised Regulations of 1861*, Richmond, 1861).

43. Other sources indicate that the first snow of 1862 occurred on November 7, not November 9 (Manuscript and typed copy of a diary of Julia Chase, 1861-65, Handley Library, Archives Room, Winchester, Va., entry for 7 November 1862).

44. The Sibley Stove, invented by Henry H. Sibley, an officer of the First U.S. Dragoons who resigned to take a commission in the Confederate Army, was described as "an air-tight cylinder 30 inches tall with an 18 inch base. It had a hinged door and weighed 30 pounds, although 25 and 18 pound models were patented also" (Les Jensen, "Sibley's Tent," *Civil War Times Illustrated*, January 1982, pp. 38-39).

45. The Irish Brigade was actually the First Battalion of Virginia Infantry. Unlike the majority of Confederate units, these troops were not volunteers "for the war" but were considered "regulars." They maintained a high standard of discipline and were often used for provost duty. See Lee Wallace, Jr., *A Guide to Virginia Military Organizations 1861-1865* (Richmond: Virginia Civil War Commission, 1964), p. 206.

46. Gen. William E. "Grumble" Jones, formerly of the U. S. Mounted Rifles and a native of Virginia, was appointed on 10 November 1862 to command a cavalry brigade consisting of five Virginia cavalry units. He died at the Battle of Piedmont on 5 June 1864.

47. No official documents mention the order to destroy contraband goods at this time. Possibly Jones foresaw the abandonment of Winchester and wanted to prevent these saleable commodities from falling into Union hands.

48. This skirmish was the result of a reconnaissance by Union cavalry from Chantilly to Berryville, Va. The Union cavalry attacked Col. E. V. White's cavalry on the Berryville Pike but were repulsed with the help of the Marylanders (Manuscript and typed copy of a diary, Mrs. Hugh Holmes Lee, Handley Library, Archives Room, Winchester, Va., entry for 29 November 1862).

49. This retreat was in response to the Union reconnaissance-in-force from Harpers Ferry under the command of General John Geary. Geary was sent to determine the strength of the Winchester garrison. He reported he was able to march into Winchester unopposed since Jones and his men had retreated to Strasburg. Geary shortly returned to Harpers Ferry, allowing Jones to reoccupy Winchester (*O.R.*, ser. 1, vol. 21, p. 34).

50. This precipitous retreat down the valley was necessary to avoid Gen. Gustave P. Clusseret's cavalry brigade that was sweeping in from Moorefield. Clusseret saw an opportunity to cut off Jones and nearly succeeded. When the Union troopers arrived in Strasburg they captured twenty Confederates, evidently those Stone referred to as having sore feet (*O.R.*, ser. 1, vol. 21, pp. 701, 786-87).

51. Stone described Jones's first Moorefield raid, a dismal failure. Jones placed the blame on poor maps and his artillery. For the hardships the Maryland infantry endured on this march see William Murray to his mother, 10 January 1863, near Edinburg, Virginia, Maryland Historical Society.

52. The Keller Mill was on Mine Run, in the Powell Valley of the Massanutten Mountains. Stone and his group did some rapid marching to cover the distance, twenty-five miles, in the time he specified. See John W. Whayland, *History of Shenandoah County* (Strasburg, Va.: Shenandoah Publishing House, 1927), pp. 181-82.

53. In January 1863 William W. Goldsborough joined the Maryland Battalion with a company of men he had raised. Since this took the number of companies up to six, a higher ranking field officer was allowed. Herbert was elected lieutenant colonel, and Goldsborough major. Goldsborough was from Talbot County and had served in the 1st Maryland (Goldsborough, *Maryland Line*, p. 89).

54. Stone probably quoted newspaper statistics reflecting the Confederate optimism following Burnside's disastrous Fredericksburg campaign and his infamous Mud March. Morale in the Union Army of the Potomac was at an all-time low and desertions were prevalent.

55. A sack coat was a loose-fitting garment that fell straight from the shoulders with no waist seam. It was a popular civilian garment, very similar to a modern sports

coat, although slightly longer. To make one into a frock coat was quite a task. A frock coat had a tight-fitting tunic that was joined at the waist with a loose skirt extending below mid-thigh. The detachable cape was not typical of officers' frock coats, unless he was speaking about his outer coat. It should be remembered that officers were allowed a wide latitude in dress since they were not issued clothing by the government. Although there were dress regulations to follow, most officers tended to suit themselves with whatever garments taste and budget permitted. See Frederick P. Todd, *American Military Equipage, 1851-1872* (3 vols.; Providence, R.I.: Company of Military Historians, 1974), 1:57.

56. Lt. James B. Franklin was from Annapolis. First lieutenant of Company D, he was later captured and imprisoned for the duration of the war (Compiled Service Records, DNA).

57. The Long Roll was a drum beat used to signal all troops to prepare to meet the enemy.

58. The skirmish that Stone described was precipitated by Captain Bond of the Maryland cavalry. A large Union cavalry force was lured into an ambush and severely routed. General Jones's report of the action praised the Maryland Infantry for their prompt reaction and eagerness for action (*O.R.*, ser. 1, vol. 25, part 1, pp. 28, 33).

59. I have found no mention of William Smun in *O.R.* or other sources.

60. Stone referred to a ceremony in which the men who are going on guard duty, and sometimes the whole force, parade in front of the officer of the day and the officer of the guard, who inspect them. The guard mount was the maneuver by which these men were marched to their guard-posts (War Department, *U.S. Army Revised Regulations of 1861*, pp. 58-61).

61. By General Order No. 46-1863 President Jefferson Davis set aside Friday, 27 March as a day of fasting and prayer.

62. The march to get pig iron from Edinburg was detailed in an account one of Stone's comrades printed in 1929. John G. White recalled that a large number of wagons accompanied the men to Liberty Furnace, southwest of Woodstock at the foot of Three-Mile Mountain (John Goldsborough White, "A Rebel's Memoirs of the Civil War," *Baltimore Sunday Sun*, 19 and 26 May and 2 June 1929. See also Maj. George B. Davis, et al., *The Official Military Atlas of the Civil War* (1891; New York: Crown Publishers, 1978, repr.), plates 92-94.

63. Officers were required to furnish their own clothing and food. With prices inflated, it is hard to imagine that Stone was able to survive on his pay as a first lieutenant, \$90 a month. Conditions worsened as the war progressed; by 1865 flour was \$1,000 a barrel in Richmond. Of course, these are prices for Confederate money; Yankee greenbacks or gold were much preferred currencies.

64. Capt. Andrew J. Gwynn was from Prince George's County, and commanded Company F. He was wounded at Peebles' Farm and was paroled at the end of the war (Harry Wright Newman, *Maryland and the Confederacy* [Annapolis, Md.: n.p., 1976], p. 287; Goldsborough, *Maryland Line*, pp. 86, 87, 130, 142). Moor's Cave is known today as Melrose Cave. It is located six miles north of Harrisonburg, Va.,

a few hundred yards off Route 11. The cave has the names of Civil War soldiers carved on its wall. See Dr. John W. Wayland, *History of Rockingham County* (Dayton, Va.: n.p., 1912), pp. 400-401.

65. Father Joseph Bixio was a Jesuit from Holy Trinity Church in Georgetown, Washington, D.C. (*Catholic Directory*, vols. 61, 64, pp. 48, 175).

66. The dead soldier, Whalen, does not appear on any rosters of the Maryland Battalion. Since Goldsborough's Company G had just joined in January, he may not have been officially mustered into the Confederate service.

67. The two officers who offended Stone's dignity were from the 1st Maryland Cavalry. Lt. Henry C. Blackistone, third and later second lieutenant of Company B of that unit, was killed on 3 June 1864. The other officer was First Lieutenant William H. B. Dorsey of Company D, who survived the war (Compiled Service Records, DNA).

68. April 11 was a Friday. The Union movement was a scouting mission from Winchester. On 12 and 13 April Col. Warren Keifer and a small force of infantry and cavalry marched to the North Fork of the Shenandoah River. They returned to Winchester without incident (*O.R.*, ser. 1, vol. 25, part 1, p. 142).

69. Stone referred to the 19 April 1861 riot. See George William Brown, *Baltimore and the 19th of April 1861* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1887), p. 53.

70. I have found no references to soldiers being able to insure their equipment. Normally a soldier would pay for the damaged goods unless he could prove he was not negligent (*Revised Regulations of 1861*, Richmond, 1861, pp. 170-72).

71. Stone described Jones's second raid on Moorefield; Richmond 1861, pp. 170-2. Other sources confirm the report of a strenuous march and the difficulty of fording flooded streams. See Goldsborough, *Maryland Line*, p. 90, and Charles William McIvar, "Chew's Horse Artillery Battery Diary" (unpublished manuscript, Handley Library, Winchester, Va.).

72. The prisoners were Captain Martin Wallace and eighty-three men of Company G, 23d Illinois Infantry. They were captured by Jones and sent back to Harrisonburg with Colonel Herbert and the wagon train (*O.R.*, ser. 1, vol. 25, part 1, p. 123).

73. When the column had proceeded one-half mile from Moorefield, Colonel Herbert, reported that "shots were fired and a citizen reported that Union troops were in the town. I ordered Major Goldsborough to send a company back to check the advance of the enemy. The company reached the hill where our camp was, but seeing no enemy, soon rejoined the column" (*O.R.*, ser. 1, vol. 25, part 1, p. 123).

74. General Jones and the cavalry continued on to raid through West Virginia, destroying several railroad trains and inflicting damage to several towns (Goldsborough, *Maryland Line*, p. 173).

75. Libby Prison was an old warehouse that had been converted into a prison. It stood on the corner of 20th and Carey streets in Richmond and was used mainly for interning officers. The enlisted men Stone took there were probably processed through Libby and sent to another camp in Richmond, Belle Isle.

76. A search of all available records does not show any Robert Shinn or any name like it serving in Lynchburg at that time.

77. A glance at a map shows that Stone took a roundabout way by rail to reach Richmond. The reason for this route was probably that the shorter route, the Virginia Central Railroad, recently had been damaged by Union cavalry. Union General George Stoneman's cavalry, as part of General Joe Hooker's plan, circled behind Confederate lines and temporarily cut the railroad lines to Richmond. Probably the repair work was still in progress at the time Stone made his journey.

78. Gen. Albert G. Jenkins had been in command of a cavalry brigade in the upper Shenandoah Valley until this time. He and his brigade were ordered to move down the valley and concentrate his forces near Strasburg. There is no record of General Jenkins having an aide named Murphy (Sanford C. Kellog, *The Shenandoah Valley and Virginia, 1861-1863, A Study*, [New York: Neale Publishing Company, 1903], p. 102; O.R., ser. 1, vol. 25, part 2, p. 820).

79. Actually Gen. Isaac R. Trimble had been assigned to overall command of the Valley District, and Jenkins was his subordinate. The review allowed Jenkins to inspect his entire force of about 2,500, although Stone estimated it at 3,000 men.

80. Why this election was held is not clear. There may have been vacancies in those positions or a new policy may have been implemented. William Wheatly was from the town of Duffield, in Charles County. John H. Duke, from St. Mary's County, would end the war imprisoned at Point Lookout. Thomas F. Groves was also captured later in the war, and James O. Bond died of disease within a year (Compiled Service Records, DNA).

81. Capt. Michael S. Robertson was the commander of Company I, 1st Maryland Infantry, Stone's company. He was from a "wealthy and old Charles County family." The battle to which Stone referred was the Battle of Harrisonburg, part of "Stonewall" Jackson's Valley Campaign of 1862. See Bradley T. Johnson, "A Memoir of the First Maryland Infantry," *Southern Historical Society Papers*, 10 (1882): 105-8.

82. Bradley T. Johnson of Frederick was formerly colonel of the 1st Maryland Infantry. He had been assigned to several administrative posts in Richmond and temporary command of an infantry brigade in Jackson's corps, but his real desire was to recruit a force of Marylanders for the Confederacy. Early in June the Confederate government granted permission for the Marylanders to elect a colonel to head all the Maryland forces in the Valley. Johnson was elected to this post and hurried to join his men. He did not reach them until after the climactic Battle of Gettysburg, when there was very little left of his command. Stone referred to him as General Johnson, a rank that Johnson did attain later in the war, perhaps another indication of Stone's writing these letters after a period of time had elapsed (Goldsborough, *Maryland Line*, p. 92).

83. The Battle of Winchester was the first full-scale battle for the 2d Maryland, and it performed well. Official sources listed three men lost in the engagement from

Stone's company and for the regiment nine wounded and one captured (*ibid.*, p. 97).

84. In a letter dated 22 June 1863, Lee wrote to Ewell asking him where the Marylanders were, adding, "I intended them to guard Winchester." Although Lee may have intended that the Marylanders remain in Winchester, Ewell did not. In his report of the campaign he wrote, "At Winchester the 2nd Maryland was attached to Steuart's brigade, with which they served gallantly throughout the campaign." This brigade mustering 2,500 effectives, was a consolidation of several diminished regiments, the 1st and 3d North Carolina and three Virginia regiments—the 10th, 23d, and 37th. See *Wartime Papers of Robert E. Lee*, Clifford Dowdey, ed. (New York: Bramall House, 1961), p. 525; *O.R.*, ser. 1, vol. 25, part 2, p. 830.

85. According to Goldsborough, Steuart not only kissed the ground, he "turned 17 double somersaults, stood on his head for 5 minutes and whistled 'My Maryland' all the while" (Goldsborough, *Maryland Line*, p. 98).

86. Richard H. Alvey, a Hagerstown lawyer, had been arrested in 1861 as a known Southern sympathizer. A native of St. Mary's County, Alvey in 1846 had worked as a clerk in the Charles County Court. Since Stone's father was a tax collector and his will was settled in court, it is possible that the younger Stone and Alvey were acquainted. A member of Stone's company, James A. Alvey, may have been a relative. See Thomas J. C. Williams, *History of Washington County, Maryland* (Hagerstown, Md.: The Mail Co., 1906), pp. 304, 314, 419.

87. Steuart's brigade was detached from Ewell's corps to gather supplies and animals from the towns that Stone named. Upon reaching Chambersburg, they were reunited with the rest of their division under General Edward Johnson.

88. All records of the campaign indicate that the Marylanders camped about three miles west of Carlisle at the McCallister farm. There is a town south of Carlisle named Mt. Holly Springs, but there is no record of any Confederate troops camping there. Stone may have confused the location on the map when he wrote the letters. See Wilbur S. Nye, *Here Come the Rebels* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1965), pp. 122-23; Edward Coddington, *The Gettysburg Campaign* (Dayton, Ohio: Morningside Bookshop, 1979, repr.), Jacob Hoke, *The Great Invasion* (New York: Thomas Yoseloff and Sons, 1959), pp. 147-52.

89. The wording here, as well as for the next few lines, is almost a direct copy of Goldsborough's version in the 1869 edition of his book. Since Stone rewrote these letters at a later date, he may have taken advantage of Goldsborough's work. See Goldsborough, *Maryland Line*, pp. 148-53.

90. The Marylanders crossed through Gettysburg on Carlisle Street and went into a line of battle on the Hanover Pike, near the extreme left of Ewell's line (W. W. Goldsborough, "With Lee at Gettysburg," *Philadelphia Record*, 8 July 1900).

91. Steuart's men succeeded in driving the few Union defenders out of a section of breastworks on the east end of Culp's Hill, the right of the Union line. Most of the troops in this area had been withdrawn to bolster the Union left, and so Stone and the Marylanders had a relatively small force in front of them. Goldsborough

estimated that 100 men were lost in this attack, including Colonel Herbert, who was seriously wounded (Goldsborough, *Maryland Line*, p. 165).

92. The decision to send Steuart's men against the summit of Culp's Hill on 3 July was most unfortunate. By that morning the Union lines were heavily defended, and the attack was hopeless. One of the defenders, Gen. Thomas L. Kane, remembered that "The Confederates attacked at 3:30 A.M., arms at the shoulder shift, dressing to the left to fill in the gaps left by the galling musketry. Many died in our lines, chiefly members of the crack First and Second Maryland Regiments of Stewart's [*sic*] brigade." See Thomas L. Kane, "Account of Gettysburg," Peter Rosenthal Papers, Brake Collection, U.S. Military History Institute, Carlisle, Pa.; John R. Boyle, *Soldiers True: The Story of the 111th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry and of Its Campaign for the Union, 1861-1865* (New York: Regimental Association, 1903), p. 128.

As for the Confederate viewpoint, Steuart was moved to tears and said, "Someone else must be responsible for the loss of those brave men. I followed orders!" (Winfield Peters, "A Maryland War Hero," *Southern Historical Society Papers*, 29 (1901): 247-49).

Losses for the battalion are cited in several sources, none of which agree. The *O.R.*, vol. 27, part 1, p. 341, reported 25 killed and 119 wounded. The monument on Culp's Hill to the 2d Maryland lists 52 killed and 140 wounded. The Brake Collection, U.S. Military History Institute, lists 144 total casualties.

93. Stone was compressing events here somewhat; the retreat to the Potomac River took several days, and they waited several more days for the flood to recede before they could cross. Steuart's Brigade did not cross the river until July 14, and there is no mention of a Union attack following the crossing. There was fighting at another area of Lee's lines, but the 2d Maryland was far from any of it.

94. Edward B. Sawyer was colonel of the 1st Vermont Cavalry; see introduction.

95. Stone continued to serve the battalion, and since Crain was now the senior captain, Stone would again have temporary charge of Company B. He was "severely wounded in the left thigh" on 3 June 1864 at the battle of Cold Harbor. At the end of the war, while he was still recuperating, he received a request from his old commander, Bradley T. Johnson, to join him at the Salisbury, North Carolina, prisoner camp. There is no evidence Stone ever went there, and no record of his surrender (Compiled Service Records, DNA).